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First Nisei Killed In Pacific War

The death of the first American soldier of Japanese ancestry in the southwest Pacific war against Japan was reported on March 26 in a communication sent by the War Department to his relatives in Des Moines, says the Pacific Citizen.

The soldier is Staff Sergeant Ken Omura, formerly of Seattle, Wash. According to the War Department's report, Sgt. Omura was drowned in New Guinea. Sgt. Omura, who was inducted into the army before Pearl Harbor, was one of the first Japanese Americans to complete his training at Camp Savage, Minn.

Cpl. Stanley Hiroo Yoshino, Japanese American soldier who was wounded on the South Pacific front, is now convalescing in the Army hospital at Springfield, Mo., it was revealed by his father who resides at the Minidoka Relocation Center at Hunt, Idaho.

ARIZONA COLLEGE FACULTY TO VISIT

About 14 faculty members of the University of Arizona in Tucson are planning to visit Rivers on April 13 or 20. President Alfred Atkinson of the University, who is an active member of the Army and Navy Education Board and ex-officio member of the Secondary Accreditation Board of Arizona, has indicated his desire to join the group and spend a day visiting in Rivers.

Hugo W. Wolter, acting project director, spoke Monday to about 70 members of the Tucson American Legion, representing a cross section of the population of the city.

NISEI EQUAL RIGHTS PETITION READY

The petition requesting equal privileges for nisei in any branch of the armed forces, drawn up last month by draft-age nisei here, has been presented with signatures to the Butte Council and will be transmitted to the President through Director Dillon S. Myer.

Keiso Ishizu, executive secretary of the Butte Council, said that he has been instructed by the council to forward the petition to the authorities as soon as he has contacted the Canal Council which is handling a similar petition for the Canal Community.

ASSISTANCE

WRA To Help In Emergencies

WRA will provide funds for evacuees on indefinite leave who are forced to return to the center because of emergency if they need traveling expenses to go out again, according to a new ruling from Washington. Heretofore, travel expenses were paid only once, and evacuees going out after the first indefinite leave were denied assistance. It is expected that this type of case will be very rare as only extreme cases will qualify.

William Tuttle, social welfare head, had made contacts with state and county welfare people and had obtained assurance that state social security funds would be provided to evacuees who return from indefinite leave on emergency and who are in need. The new ruling from Washington, however, will take care of such emergency cases.

Safeguards are also provided for relocated (continued on page 2)

Council Shifts Officers, Plans Reorganization

Relocation has caused several shifts in the offices of the Butte Council, stated Keiso Ishizu, executive secretary.

John Fukushima, vice chairman, automatically replaced Hary Miyake as chairman, and George Nishimura was chosen vice chairman at the previous Council meeting.

The office of community clerk, vacated by the relocation of Izzy Otani, is being filled by Shigemi Aratani, councilman from Block 36, who is appointed temporarily until the Executive Board makes a recommendation for a permanent community clerk.

The proposed reorganization of the community government will be discussed 7:30 tomorrow night at the 42-2-D office by the Council executive boards and representatives of the Block Managers, with Hugo W. Wolter, assistant director.

NISEI ELIGIBLE FOR FSA LOAN

American citizen evacuees who relocate are eligible for Farm Security Administration loans on the same basis as other American citizens, according to a recent announcement from the Washington office of WRA. FSA spokesmen have advised WRA that farm loans are made to citizen relocators in accordance with FSA policies for aiding persons in carrying out their own rehabilitation and in increasing production of the nation's food supply.

Loans to American citizens of any ancestry are made only after eligibility to receive a loan has been established by a County Committee.